

Winter LTTA Info

from your London Terrace Tenants Association

THE MORATORIUM ON EVICTIONS AND FUTURE OF RENT PROTECTIONS

Michael McKee, leader of Tenants PAC—a group supported by the LTTA—says there is a moratorium on all evictions until March 1. The landlord cannot file a lawsuit against you for non-payment of rent, nor can previously-filed cases move forward.

You can file a hardship declaration stating that you are either 1) unable to pay your rent on time due to financial troubles and/or 2) cannot be evicted due to COVID health concerns.

That will prevent procedure against you until May 1.

The form can be filled out online at:

HousingJusticeForAll.org/tenants-declaration-form

The push of the tenant movement in Albany right now is rent relief for tenants in need.

Some federal relief is in the pipeline but it won't be enough. Legislative leaders want to raise taxes on the wealthy, but Governor Cuomo hasn't expressed his support. We remain concerned about retaining our hard-won tenant protections. The survey that will determine whether the citywide vacancy rate has exceeded 5% (at which point the law says the rent emergency is over and the laws disappear) will be conducted this year and the results released by January. Manhattan vacancies are much higher due to the pandemic, but lower in the other boroughs. Given the pandemic, we're looking at requiring the 5% threshold to be reached in two consecutive surveys to help avoid undoing the laws.

Get more info on Tenants PAC at **TenantsPAC.org**

2021 LONDON TERRACE STREET FAIR EXPECTED TO RUN THIS YEAR

We're planning the annual LTTA Street Fair again this year in September. We need to see how the vaccination program progresses, and if there's another surge. Please check our website for updates. We like to think that the day of our street fair is the best day of the year! It's an annual gathering of artists, crafts people and vendors of vintage collectables as friends and neighbors come together.

GET ON THE LTTA EMAIL LIST

This newsletter comes once a season. But the news won't stop. Sign up to receive important updates. We will never spam you or give marketers your info.

TOWN HALL FOR LONDON TERRACE

Q&A with New York State Senator

Brad Hoylman

Hosted by your Tenants Association

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd
6:30 pm**

Here's how to join the conversation:

1) By Zoom: Get the link at www.LTTA.info

2) Go to Zoom.com and get the Zoom app

3) Use this info to log into the meeting :

Meeting ID: 897 4776 9086 Passcode: 004364

4) OR call in on any phone with no video:
646-558-8656 using the above ID and passcode

From the office of State Senator Brad Hoylman:

"As State Senator for Manhattan, Brad Hoylman has championed a wide range of progressive issues, such as housing, mass transit & safe streets, public education, LGBTQ rights, the environment and seniors. He has passed over 70 bills in the Senate, including the Child Victims Act, allowing adult survivors of child sexual abuse to revive legal claims against their abusers; the TRUST Act, which permitted Congress to review the state taxes of elected officials such as Donald Trump; GENDA, which extended human rights protections to transgender New Yorkers; banning the practice of sexual orientation change efforts on children, or so-called "conversion therapy;" and the Tenant Safe Harbor Act, which prevents tenants from being evicted if financially impacted due to COVID-19."

LTTA has hosted a number of ZOOM conference video calls with our elected officials, including: US Representative Jerry Nadler, State Senator Brad Hoylman, Speaker/Council Member Corey Johnson, NYC Comptroller, Scott Stringer, Borough President Gale Brewer, Assembly Member Richard Gottfried. They've all given brief updates and taken questions. Let us know if you would like more of these.

Visit us online & learn more at

www.LTTA.info

LOCAL BUSINESSES NEED OUR HELP

Chelsea Square Restaurant – 8th Ave & 23rd St.

This authentic Greek diner has been a neighborhood gem for over 40 years. Owners, John Lapsatis and John Boumakis, have maintained this cozy atmosphere with about 40 employees, (Many staff have been there for decades.) The diner has stayed open during snowstorms, blizzards, 9/11, and now the Covid-19 pandemic. Like all restaurants, sales have plummeted. The owners try to do an equal rotation of the staff, so everyone can make a living, but it's been reduced this year. Food is affordable, good, and with generous portions. During Hurricane Sandy, they set up generators and were one of the only 24/7 places to go to, and if you remember the darkness, they were our beacon of light! Please help Chelsea Square survive for the next 40 years.

The Drunken Horse – 10th Avenue near 23rd St.

The longtime owners of The Drunken Horse, Le Pif and another nearby wine bar on 24th St. just couldn't keep it going during the pandemic. We were sad to learn they shuttered. There is still hope for the Drunken Horse though. A new owner has taken over and is trying to keep it going. You may have seen the lovely new outdoor dining set up. If we can help them survive then you will be welcomed back inside to sit in front of the fireplace in a comfy armchair and catch up with a friend... they too need our help to survive

From the Chelsea Community News:

DESPITE CANCELLED PLANS, LTТА CHARITABLE GIVING EXPANDS

"After a cruel, cruel summer of street fairs featuring the same funnel cake stands and tube sock hawkers, the London Terrace Street Fair is an open-air paradise where the items are as one-of-a kind as the vendors who sell them. --Having helmed a Chelsea-centric newspaper, then website, from March 2010 to the present, coming up with preview copy like that has long been a task written on my calendar with the same indelible ink marker reserved for the event itself. So, when COVID-19 precautions compelled the London Terrace Tenants Association to cancel 2020's Street Fair, I was surprised (but far from shocked) to learn that despite the sizable loss of income, LTТА greatly expanded the scope of their charitable work, to help local people and places battered by the ongoing global pandemic. Read more about it by searching for "LTТА" on the only website devoted only to Chelsea." <https://tinyurl.com/y484bxx9>

CORONAVIRUS ISN'T DONE YET

- > Wear a proper mask in all common areas.
- > Ride elevators alone or with your family group.
- > Remember to wash those hands!

WHY WE HAVE TO KEEP STAIRCASES FREE OF OBSTRUCTIONS AND DEBRIS

Tenants are piling up their boxes, bags, and even furniture on the landings that are strictly meant to be fire escapes in emergencies and blackouts. There are rules and guidelines we all have to follow:

= If it does not fit, take it to the basement.

If you have something that won't fit down the chute or into the recycling bags, bring it to the basement and place on either side of the elevator door .

If you need help disposing something, call the maintenance office for removal: **212-243-7000 x3**

= Rinse recyclables, reduce roaches.

Before placing plastic or glass food containers in the recycling bag, rinse out the attractive smell of food.

= Please don't misuse our common space.

For instance, a tenant in the 450 building shakes out rugs on the staircase. This health and safety hazard is illegal. Please be safe *and* considerate.

= Hallways can't be used to store things.

It may be convenient, but mats, bicycles, strollers, shoes, etc. can't be stored in the hallways. It's all about keeping the hallways clean *and* eliminating fire hazards and you won't know how important that is until we need to exit in the event of a fire or blackout.

NEIGHBOR GLORIA SILVERMAN DIES

A 60-year resident of London Terrace Gardens in 425/16-A for 60 years, Gloria died on January 3rd. She was 93 years old. "She loved life and loved living in London Terrace," said her daughter Jill, who was herself born here. "It's a shame that COVID took her life. Even in the hospital she said, 'I'm not ready to leave.'" Gloria had beaten cancer on six different occasions. Jill said her mom was a Radio City Music Hall Rockette in the 1950s and in the Broadway cast of "Oklahoma." She was a model in the 1960s. "Everyone knew her and loved her," Jill said. "She had a positive energy about life."

CORRECTION

In the last print newsletter we noted the passing of **Frank Meade**, London Terrace's longest standing tenant. His name was misspelled in error. Frank was born here and died here, just short of age 71.

GOT NEWS, QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Visit our website or send us an email.

On behalf of the LTТА Board, stay safe as we help improve life for our neighbors in London Terrace.

Inge Ivchenko

President, London Terrace Tenants Association

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